25th August 1926]

Establishment of the West Coast fishery stations.

*2303 Q.—Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the number of (1) clerks, (2) yard officers, (3) assistant yard officers and (4) peons appointed on the West Coast fishery stations and fish-curing yards from April 1924 to April 1926 according to (1) caste and (2) educational qualifications; and

(b) how many fishermen applicants were there for the above posts (for the period) and what were their educational qualifications?

A.—(a) & (b) A statement[a] is laid on the table.

Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—" With reference to the statement appended in answer to this question, may I know from the hon. the Minister for Development why out of 18 fishermen applicants for the posts not a single one of them was given a clerk's post?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" Mr. Chacco was appointed a clerk to the Assistant Director. A man who knows shorthand was wanted. So a Brahman was appointed who knows shorthand and typewriting. In the case of the post of a cash-keeper, the fishermen applicants were not able to furnish the necessary security. So an Anglo-Indian who was able to furnish the necessary security was appointed."

Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—" May I just ask the hon. the Minister for Development whether it is a fact that these fishermen applicants were not able to furnish the necessary security?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" I presume they were not."

Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—" With reference to the answer given to this question, you will find on page 97 that three fishermen candidates applied for the posts of clerks, and not a single one of them was given the post of a clerk; fully efficient fishermen with the necessary qualifications applied for the post, and they were rejected although the department is intended for the amelioration of the fishermen class."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" Special reasons are enumerated for the appointment of clerk's post in the Fisheries department, and exigencies of public service required that the appointment should be given to a candidate belonging to another caste. In the case of appointment of Mr. Chacco, he was appointed because he was considered suitable for the post."

Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—" Did the subordinate officer who made the appointment think that a Secondary School-Leaving Certificate candidate would be preferable to a graduate? Was there anything extraordinary with the latter?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" The appointment was made by the Director of Fisheries."

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[a] Printed as Appendix IV on page 97 infra.

Rao Sahib P. V. Gopalan :—"Is not the Director of Fisheries a subordinate officer to the hon. the Minister for Development? Has he not got control over the Fisheries department?"

The hon. the President :—"Order, order. Why this cross-examination?"

Rao Sahib P. V. Gopalan :—"I have not finished my question. In the case of petty yard officers and peons, 30 applications came from fisher folk and Government appointed only 6 of them. I want to know why Government did not appoint more number of men from fisher folk?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai :—"I have given my reasons already."

Rao Sahib P. V. Gopalan :—"I am just asking about petty officers and peons. The reasons given by the hon. Minister apply to only yard officers and clerks. I am asking why out of 30 applications received from fishermen only 6 were appointed as petty yard officers and peons although the department is mainly intended for fishermen."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai :—"In the exigencies of public service it was found necessary to appoint people from outside the caste of fishermen also."

Rao Sahib P. V. Gopalan :—"With reference to the appointments of yard officers where was the special necessity for the Government to appoint an S.S.L.C. in preference to a graduate?"

The hon. the President :—"Exigencies of public service says the Minister."

Rao Sahib P. V. Gopalan :—"Thank you, Sir."

Selection of pupils for training in the Fisheries Institute at Calicut.

* 2304 *Q.*—Rao Sahib P. V. Gopalan : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of stipendiary pupils selected for training in the Fisheries Institute at Calicut in 1925;

(*b*) whether any of the above students has been dismissed from the Institute, and, if so, for what reasons;

(*c*) whether any of the dismissed students has been re-admitted; and

(*d*) whether there are any more students not re-admitted and, if so, for what reasons?

A.—(*a*) Seventeen.

(*b*) Four were discharged as they were found not to have made sufficient progress during their probationary period of six months.

(*c*) Two have been re-admitted and their probationary period has been extended for a further period of six months.

(*d*) One of the two who have not been re-admitted is weak in all subjects and the other is very poor in the vernacular.